

Syria advocates use of renewable energy

DAMASCUS, Syria, Sept. 15 (UPI) -- Damascus aims through a five-year national plan to expand the use of renewable energy in order to decrease domestic fuel and gas demand.

Damascus identified diversity of renewable energy resources as a priority in a national study. The five-year plan comes as Syria expects its power demand to reach 44,000 megawatt-hours by 2010.

A national study finds wind energy abundant in four areas of the country, where wind speed is adequate to incorporate 2 MW wind turbines.

On solar energy, research found luminosity in Syria exceeds 7 KWh per square meter in several regions. Consumer and industrial waste, meanwhile, might generate as much as 1,000 MWh, which the official Syrian Arab News Agency says transfers waste from an environmental problem to an energy producer.

The industrial and trade sectors were identified by the national survey as the source of the largest waste of electricity, with Syrian industrial products consuming 9 times more than their European and American counterparts.

The study aims to encourage the industrial sector to move toward solar and wind energy, using what they need and channeling the extra back into the national energy grid.